



Fitness to Practice Temporary Order Hearing

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Temporary Order Hearings

A Temporary Order (TO) hearing can take place at any time during an investigation.

At this hearing, a Panel will decide if a Temporary Order is:

- necessary to protect the public
- in the public interest
- in your interests.

For information about what Temporary Orders are, see our slideshow 'Temporary Orders'.

You can find more information about temporary order hearings in [SSSC Factsheet #6](#).



Before the Hearing

The SSSC will write to you and explain the allegations made against you and the reasons for the Temporary Order.

This will be sent to you, and your employer, along with the date and time of the hearing.

The SSSC will also send you a copy of the evidence they have gathered, and that they will use in the hearing.



The Hearing

- The hearing will be held online. If you want it to be held in person, you must ask for this.
- The hearing is held in private
- The process for the hearing is in the SSSC's Combined Fitness to Practise Rules 2021.

Hearing Process- Stage 1 (Rule 45)



To begin, the presenter (normally SSSC solicitor) will read out the allegation(s) made against you and the reasons why they believe a Temporary Order should be imposed.



This may be accompanied by evidence that backs up these allegations



You will then be given a chance to speak about why you believe that the order should not be imposed. You can also bring evidence.

Stage 1 (Rule 45) continued



It is advisable that you explain why you don't believe a Temporary Order should be imposed.



The Panel will take into account all information that they hear. If you do not present your case, then this can be seen as you agreeing with the accusations.

Stage 2 Decision (Rule 45)

Following your statements, the Panel will make a decision on whether:

- The evidence, on the face of it (prima facie), proves the allegations.
- A Temporary Order would be necessary for the protection of the public, in the public interest, or your own interest.

Conditions- Rule 21

If the Panel wants to impose condition(s), the hearing may be stopped and started again at a later date. You will be able to make further statements about the proposed condition(s) at the new hearing.

Where condition(s) are imposed on your registration, you must ensure they are met.

Stage 3 After the Hearing- (Rule 46)



A notice of the decision will be sent to you and your employer within 7 days of the hearing.



The SSSC will continue their investigation.

Stage 4- Following the Hearing (Rules 48, 49 and 50)

The SSSC can remove or apply to extend/adjust a Temporary Order at any point after it has been imposed.

You can ask for a review of a Temporary Order. You must wait 3 months after the hearing to do so.

Stage 4- Following the Hearing (Rules 48, 49 and 50)

If the SSSC holds a review hearing, the Panel may:

- Take no action
- Extend the order
- Change the order
- Revoke the order
- Create another Temporary Order which will come into force following the conclusion of the current one.

Public Availability of Information

Workers who have had Temporary Order imposed upon their registration will be listed publicly on the SSSC website.

Details of hearings are published on the website ahead of the date, including details of allegations.

Notices of Decisions are published on the SSSC website. Sensitive information may be omitted.